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**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant: Susumu HASHIMOTO *et al.*

Title: MAGNETORESISTANCE EFFECT ELEMENT WITH IMPROVED  
ANTIFERROMAGNETIC LAYER

Appl. No.: 09/785,458

Filing Date: February 20, 2001

Examiner: B. Miller

Art Unit: 2652

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**RECEIVED**  
APR 29 2002  
Technology Center 2600

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**  
**UNDER 37 CFR §1.56**

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Submitted herewith on PTO Form SB/08B is a listing of documents known to Applicants in order to comply with Applicants' duty of disclosure pursuant to 37 CFR §1.56. A copy of each listed document is being submitted to comply with the provisions of 37 CFR §1.97 and §1.98.

The submission of any document herewith, which is not a statutory bar, is not intended as an admission that such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application or that such document is considered material to patentability as defined in 37 CFR §1.56(b). Applicants do not waive any rights to take any action which would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove as a competent reference any document which is determined to be a *prima facie* art reference against the claims of the present application.

04/25/2002 SSITH1B1 00000011 09785458

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180.00 DP

**TIMING OF THE DISCLOSURE**

The listed documents are being submitted in compliance with 37 CFR §1.113, after the mailing date of the final action. A check in the amount of \$180.00 is attached to cover the fee due.

**STATEMENT**

The undersigned hereby states in accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e)(2) that no item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, and, to the knowledge or the person signing the statement after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was known to any individual designated in §1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement.

Applicants note that U.S. Patent No. 6,368,706 was issued on April 9, 2002 from U.S. Application Serial No. 09/111,884, which was cited on the supplemental IDS filed December 28, 2001.


Applicants respectfully request that any listed document be considered by the Examiner and be made of record in the present application and that an initialed copy of PTO Form SB/08B be returned in accordance with MPEP §609.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required regarding this application under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16-1.17, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 06-1447. Should no proper payment be enclosed herewith, as by a check being in the wrong amount, unsigned, post-dated, otherwise improper or informal or even entirely missing, the Commissioner is authorized to charge the unpaid amount to Deposit Account No. 06-1447.

Respectfully submitted,

Date 4/24/02

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